



## GOVERNOR'S ADVISORY COUNCIL ON AGING LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

### Welcome to the Legislative Update for March 4, 2016

This e-mail is provided as a courtesy of the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. The purpose of this service is to keep older Arizonans and advocates of aging services informed about bills and actions taking place at the Arizona State Legislature and to highlight federal legislation or activities affecting older Americans. The information is intended to help you shape your own opinion about an issue and give you the necessary resources and contacts so that you can ensure your perspective and voice are heard. The *Legislative Update* is non-partisan in nature.

Note: to get the most from this report, be sure to open the [links](#) throughout this issue for the latest news and information. Thank you for your interest!

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### 52<sup>nd</sup> Legislature, 2<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session

More than 1,435 actions were filed since our last issue; however, no additional bills have passed. Both the House and Senate are adjourned until Monday, March 7 at 1:30 p.m.

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The Governor's Advisory Council on Aging tracks legislation that has the potential to impact older Arizonans. Those bills can be found on the [FULL List](#) web report provided [HERE](#). (Be sure to view the recent action and scheduled hearings for these bills and click on the bill numbers for more information including bill versions, adopted amendments, proposed amendments, votes, fact sheets and more.)

### Highlights from the tracking list

**SB1196: silver alert; Alzheimer's disease** – allows a Silver Alert to be issued for a missing person with Alzheimer's disease or a related disorder. Recent action: 3/3 from House Military Affairs & Public Safety Committee do pass. **Hearing on 3/7 in the House Rules Committee at 1:00 p.m., House Rm. 4.** House summary [HERE](#)

**SB1237: commission of Indian affairs; continuation** – continues the Arizona Commission of Indian Affairs for eight years. Recent action: 3/2 referred to the House Government & High Education Committee. **Hearing scheduled on 3/10 at 9:00 a.m. in**

## **House Rm. 1.**

**SB1283: controlled substances prescription monitoring program** – requires medical practitioners to obtain a patient utilization report from the controlled substances prescription monitoring program's central database tracking system before prescribing certain controlled substances and outlines exemptions to this requirement. Recent action: passed Senate 30-0; ready for the House. Senate Fact Sheet (3/3) as passed Committee of the Whole [HERE](#)

Note: Governor Ducey established a Substance Abuse Task Force on February 23 to address and reverse the growing epidemic of drug abuse and addiction in Arizona communities.

**SB1316: board of trustees; disincorporation; repeal \*\*Strike everything amendment to SB1316** establishes flexible credit loans, regulated by the Arizona Department of Financial Institutions (DFI) and outlines the requirements for licensure, loan plans, interest rates and finance charges. Recent action: 3/1 from House Ways and Means Committee with amendment. **Hearing on 3/7 in the House Rules Committee at 1:00 p.m. in House Rm. 4.** Adopted amendment [HERE](#)

**SB1375: telephone solicitations** - expands the prohibition on telephone solicitation to include all telephone numbers. Recent action: 3/1 referred to the House Commerce Committee. **Hearing scheduled in the House Commerce Committee on 3/9 at 9:30 a.m. in House Rm. 1.** Senate engrossed version [HERE](#)

**SB1441: long-term insurance; rates; premium** – makes various changes to Arizona's long-term care insurance laws relating to premium increases by insurers. Recent action: Passed Senate 23-2; ready for House. Senate adopted amendment [HERE](#)

**SB1490: transportation funding; task force** – an emergency measure that establishes the Surface Transportation Task Force (Task Force) and specifies duties and requirements of the Task Force. Recent action: 2/29 passed House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee. **Hearing scheduled 3/8/16 at 2:00 p.m., House Rm. 1**

**SB1507: ALTCS; dental services** - the list of services that are required to be provided by the ALTCS program contractors to ALTCS members is expanded to include dental services in an annual amount of not more than \$1,000 per member. Recent action: 3/3 passed Senate 30-0; ready for the House. Senate engrossed version [HERE](#)

**HB2099: developmental disabilities; terminology; settings** – modifies statutes and terminology relating to the Department of Economic Security's program for persons with developmental disabilities. Senate fact sheet [HERE](#) **Hearing in Senate Rules on 3/7 at 1:00 p.m. in the Senate Caucus Rm. 1.**

**HB2178: Az silver-haired legislature** – establishes the Arizona Silver-Haired Legislature. HB2178 amended to remove \$60,000 appropriation. Recent action: 3/3

passed House 39-18; ready for Senate. House summary [HERE](#)

**HB2452: cash assistance; eligibility; children** – allows an eligible dependent child to receive cash assistance during the period in which the dependent child is in the legal custody of CDS and is placed in unlicensed kinship foster care with a non-parent relative. (includes grandparent). Requires DES to allow cash assistance for an otherwise eligible child who meets one of the following: a. the court has placed the child with a non-parent relative; b. the child's parents are deceased and the child is living with a non-parent relative; c. a non-parent relative has custody of the child because the child is abandoned. Recent action: 3/3 from Senate Health and Human Services Committee with amendment. Senate fact sheet (3/3) [HERE](#)

**HB2461: lifespan respite care; program termination** – continues the Lifespan Respite Care Program through July 1, 2025. Recent action: 3/3 from Senate Health and Human Services Committee do pass. Senate fact sheet [HERE](#) **Hearing scheduled on 3/7 in Senate Rules Committee at 1:00PM., Senate Caucus Rm 1.**

**HB2667: dental care; treatment; volunteer care** – prohibits a dental professional who provides services in a private office setting or in a patient's place of residence to receive any payment or compensation, either direct or indirect, or have the expectation of payment or compensation for any dental care or treatment services provided.. Includes a dental professional's private office or the patient's place of residence as a nonprofit clinic for individuals who have been referred by a nonprofit clinic. Recent action: 3/2 Passed House 54-4; ready for Senate.

**HB2583: open meetings; audiovisual recordings** – requires all public bodies to provide a complete audiovisual recording of all meetings except for executive sessions. Recent action: 2/29 House voted to reconsider in Committee of the Whole (COW) to further amend the bill and third reading. House COW approved with amendment #4383 and floor amendment #4651. FAILED to pass House on reconsideration 23-31.

ALSO: **HB2666: governor's economic opportunity office; consolidation** – establishes the Governor's Economic Opportunity Office (GEOO) and modifies existing agency programs, policies and funds. Prescribes GEOO as the designated office for Arizona's workforce, employment, education, economic development and labor market information and programs. Recent action: 3/3 House Committee of the Whole approved with amendments. Passed House 33-19; ready for Senate. House engrossed version [HERE](#).

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**DON'T FORGET!**

**You can watch Live Proceedings at:**

[http://azleg.granicus.com/Mediaplayer.php?publish\\_id=5](http://azleg.granicus.com/Mediaplayer.php?publish_id=5)

**If you wish to speak**, you must sign in at any of the kiosks located outside the

committee rooms located on the first floor of either the House or the Senate (1700 W. Washington, Phoenix, AZ 85007) the first time you use the Request to Speak. After that you will be able to **sign in from home and register a position on any bill** shown on an Agenda (whether or not you wish to speak).

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**Arizona State Legislature ALIS Today calendar** [HERE](#)

**Find House agendas** [HERE](#)

**Find Senate agendas** [HERE](#)

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## **Schedules**

**[House Weekly Schedule](#)**

**Senate 2016 Committee Schedule List** [HERE](#)

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## **Deadlines**

**Friday, March 18** marks the last day to hear Senate bills in the House Committee and House bills in the Senate committees.

**Senate** [2016 Session Timeline](#)

**[House Important Deadlines](#)**

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Members of the House of Representatives and Senate are listed on the Arizona State Legislature website at the following links if you wish to contact them by phone or email.

**Members of the** [House](#)

**Members of the** [Senate](#)

**[Standing Committees](#)** - this link provides you with a list of the committee members and information on any posted meeting agendas or minutes for that committee.

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## Summary of Action

As of day 54, 1,219 bills have been posted; four (4) have passed and have been signed; 106 memorials or resolutions have been posted; four (4) have passed. Note: some of these bills may be of interest to older Arizonans and will be tracked by the Council on Aging and appear on the *Legislative Update* web report. Please be advised that the presence of a bill on a tracking list **does not** represent support or opposition by the Governor's Advisory Council on Aging. It **does** mean that the topic is something that is likely to be of interest to or have an impact on older Arizonans.

**FULL List** click [HERE](#)

Note: the **FULL List** web report provides you with the current status and upcoming hearing information on all of the bills being tracked by the Council and is available and updated on an ongoing basis 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. This list will continue to be edited and updated throughout the session. Information about bill status, hearings, etc. is a purchased service provided by *Arizona Capitol Times*.

If you know of someone who would appreciate receiving this information, encourage them to subscribe to the *Legislative Update* by sending a request to [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov).

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## Fiscal News

**The Joint Legislative Budget Committee/JLBC *Monthly Fiscal Highlights February 2016* is provided [HERE](#)** and indicates "Year-to-date, base General Fund revenues are 2.9% above the prior year."

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## Share your thoughts!

If you have a particular perspective to share with the Governor or your Legislators, you may voice your thoughts by contacting the:

- **Governor's Office of Constituent Services** at 602-542-4331 in Phoenix; 520-628-6580 in Tucson and in-state toll-free at 1-800-253-0883 (outside Maricopa County only) or
- **Legislators** from your area. You can locate your legislator by going to the **Arizona State Legislature** website and looking for: [How Do I Find or Contact my Legislators?](#)

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Not sure about your congressional or legislative district? Maps can be found on the

Arizona State Legislature website linked [here](#).

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Other resources on the [www.azleg.gov](http://www.azleg.gov) website

Need to learn more about the legislative process? See [Arizona Bill](#) or [Bill to Law](#).

Find and review bill information [HERE](#).

Learn about the budget process [HERE](#).

Research the State Constitution [HERE](#).

Learn more at *Frequently Asked Questions* linked [HERE](#).

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## **FEDERAL OVERVIEW**

### **H.R.4650**

#### **Preserving Patient Access to Post-Acute Hospital Care Act of 2016**

Introduced on 2/29/2016 by Representative Vern Buchanan (FL-16)

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide for an extension of certain Medicare long-term care hospital payment rules.

On 2/29/2016, referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.

### **H.R.4642**

#### **Diabetic Eye Disease Prevention Act of 2016**

Introduced on 2/26/2016 by Representative Chris Collins (NY-27)

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to establish a Medicare diabetic eye disease prevention and early treatment demonstration project.

On 2/26/2016 referred to the House Ways and Means.

### **H.R.4641**

**To provide for the establishment of an inter-agency task force to review, modify, and update best practices for pain management and prescribing pain medications,**

**and for other purposes.**

Introduced on 2/26/2016 by Representative Susan W. Brooks (IN-5)

Text [HERE](#)

On 2/26/2016, referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.

#### **H.R.4632**

#### **CT Colonography Screening for Colorectal Cancer Act of 2016**

Introduced on 2/26/2016 by Representative Brad Wenstrup (OH-2)

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to cover screening computed tomography colonography as a colorectal cancer screening test under the Medicare program.

On 2/25/2016, referred to the House Ways and Means.

#### **H.R.4614**

#### **Medicare Access to Radiology Care Act of 2016**

Introduced on 2/25/2016 by Representative Pete Olson (TX-22)

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to align physician supervision requirements under the Medicare program for radiology services performed by advanced level radiographers with State requirements.

On 2/25/2016, referred to the House Ways and Means.

#### **H.R.4591**

**To amend title 38, United States Code, to authorize the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to enter into agreements with certain health care providers to furnish hospital care, medical services and extended care to veterans.**

Introduced on 2/23/2016 by Representative Jeff Miller (FL-1)

Text [HERE](#)

On 2/25/2016 Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.

#### **H.R.4589**

## **Excellence in Medicare Act**

Introduced on 2/23/2016 by Representative Thomas MacArthur (NJ-3)

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to repeal the cap on the Medicare Advantage star rating bonuses, and for other purposes.

On 2/23/2015, referred to the House Ways and Means.

## **H.Res.633**

**Recognizing the important work of Meals on Wheels American and senior nutrition programs throughout the Nation in addressing hunger and isolation and improving the health and quality of life for millions of our Nation's seniors each year.**

Introduced on 3/1/2016 by Representative David Loebsack (IA-2)

Text [HERE](#)

3/1/2016 referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce.

## **S.524**

### **Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act of 2016**

Introduced in Senate 2/12/2015 by Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (RI)

To authorize the Attorney General to award grants to address the national epidemics of prescription opioid abuse and heroin use.

Text [HERE](#)

3/3/2016 cloture motion on the measure presented in the Senate.

## **S.Amdt.3367 to S.Amdt.3378**

Purpose: to establish a life-saving program to prevent drug and opioid abuse in Medicare. Amends S.524. Senator Pat Toomey submitted 3/1/2016; proposed 3/2/2016. [Amendment SA 3367](#) agreed to in Senate by Voice Vote.

## **S.2605**

### **Medicaid Coverage for Addiction Recovery Expansion Act**

Introduced on 2/29/2016 by Senator Richard Durbin (IL)



To amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to provide States with an option to provide medical assistance to individuals between the ages of 22 and 64 for inpatient services to treat substance use disorders at certain facilities, and for other purposes.

On 2/29/2016, read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance. (text of measure as introduced: CR S1087)

## **S.2618**

**A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to require States to publish a Medicaid fee-for-service provider directory.**

Introduced on 3/2/2016 by Senator Chuck Grassley (IA)

3/2/2016, read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

## **S.2614**

**Kevin and Avonte's Law of 2016**

Introduced on 3/1/2016 by Senator Charles Schumer (NY)

To amend the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, to reauthorize the Missing Alzheimer's Disease Patient Alert Program, and to promote initiatives that will reduce the risk of injury and death relating to the wandering characteristics of some children with autism.

On 3/1/2016, read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

## **S.2597**

**Medicare Mental Health Access Act**

Introduced on 2/25/2016 by Senator Sherrod Brown (OH)

To amend title XVIII of the Social Security Act to provide treatment of clinical psychologists as physicians for purposes of furnishing clinical psychologist services under the Medicare program.

On 2/25/2016, read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance.

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**Share your opinions with members of Congress!**

If you are interested in sharing your thoughts or concerns, find out how to contact your Representatives or Senators by visiting: <http://www.house.gov/> for the **House** or

<http://www.senate.gov/> for the Senate.

Links to the membership lists are provided below.

[House](#) members

[Senate](#) members

You can contact the White House at this [link](#).

ALSO: A compilation of contact information is provided at:

<http://www.usa.gov/Contact/Elected.shtml>.

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## NEWS& RESOURCES

From **Kaiser Health News**

*UCLA Freshmen Learn About Growing Old - [HERE](#)*

*Dueling Star Ratings May Confuse Some Home Health Patients [HERE](#)*

*The Agonizing Limbo of Abandoned Nursing Home Residents - [HERE](#)*

*R2D2's Next Assignment: Hospital Orderly [HERE](#)*

KHN's Aging coverage at: <http://khn.org/topics/aging/>.

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From the **National Association of States United for Aging and Disabilities/NASUAD**

*Friday Updates, March 4, 2016*

### **Elder Justice Change AGENTS Issue Brief**

The John A. Hartford Foundation recently released a new publication, *Elder Justice: A John A. Hartford Foundation Change AGENTS Issue Brief*. A startling statistic shows, "that at least 2 million older adults (one in 10 people over the age of 60) are abused or mistreated each year." Additionally, this number of abused elders may be far greater as abuse often goes unreported. Included in the brief are the significant challenges that exist around this issue and the opportunities to create solutions. This brief was generated from two gatherings of elder justice thought leaders aimed to help The John A. Hartford Foundation plan a course of action that builds on the strengths of existing efforts and funded programs.

[Click here](#) to access the publication. (Direct link [HERE](#))

*Friday Updates, February 26, 2016*

### **On Pins and Needles: Caregivers of Adults with Mental Illness**

The National Alliance for Caregiving, in collaboration with Mental Health America and the National Alliance on Mental Illness, released a report surrounding the topic of caregivers of adults with mental illness. "At least 8.4 million Americans are providing care to an adult with an emotional or mental health issue, and nearly three quarters report that caregiving causes high emotional stress." This report examines the inadequacies the families of individuals with mental illness face in the U.S. health care system, common challenges facing these caregivers, and issues regarding treatment.

[Click here](#) to access the publication. (Direct link [HERE](#))

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From the **National Council on Aging/NCOA**

**Find Updated Benefits Eligibility Charts for 2016** [HERE](#)

**New Video: How Not to Shop for Medicare** [HERE](#)

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**U.S. Department of Health & Human Services**

Alzheimer's website: <http://www.alzheimers.gov/>

**National Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease** updated information can be found at:  
<http://aspe.hhs.gov/daltcp/napa/>.

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From **Governing Magazine**

[Alzheimer's Care Struggles to Meet Demands](#)

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From **The Center on Aging & Work at Boston College**

**AGenda Aging & Work Blog**

[Positive Deviance: Supporting Working Caregivers](#)

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From the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention/CDC**

*Long-Term Care Providers and Services Users in the United States: Data From the National Study of Long-Term Care Providers 2013-2014* [HERE](#)

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From **St. Luke's Health Initiatives**, Arizona Health Futures February 2016

[\*\*Fired Up: Community Paramedicine Models Blaze a Trail for Healthcare Delivery Reform\*\*](#)

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Training available from the **Center for Transportation Excellence** –

[\*\*Six Steps to Success\*\*](#) **Putting Your Transportation Message in Service**

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*From the Arizona Department of Economic Security - Arizona Selected to Participate in First-of-its-kind Employment and Training Project* news release [HERE](#)

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## **INFORMATION& RESOURCES:**

**In case you missed it last time...**

**NCOA Savvy Saving Seniors toolkits** [HERE](#)

**NCOA outline of Administration budget** [HERE](#) and **NCOA funding table** [HERE](#)

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From the **Center on Aging & Work at Boston College**

*“But your mother lives 1200 miles away!” Using flexibility and breaks to support long-distance working caregivers* [HERE](#)

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**Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council**

**Webinar: Service Animals – March 7, 2016; 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.**

To register now, please visit the following link:

[https://ihd-azucd.adobeconnect.com/e20pubjrtz2/event/registration.html?campaign-id=030716\\_ADDPC](https://ihd-azucd.adobeconnect.com/e20pubjrtz2/event/registration.html?campaign-id=030716_ADDPC)

To know more about the event, please visit the ADDPC website:

[https://ihd-azucd.adobeconnect.com/e20pubjrtz2/event/eventinfo.html?campaign-id=030716\\_ADDPC](https://ihd-azucd.adobeconnect.com/e20pubjrtz2/event/eventinfo.html?campaign-id=030716_ADDPC)

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*In case you missed it earlier...*

**Arizona Association of Area Agencies on Aging/AZ4A 2016 Aging Summit**

**May 19-20, 2016**, High Country Conference Center, 201 West Butler Avenue, Flagstaff AZ

More information and register online [HERE](#)

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If you're interested

Past issues of the *Legislative Updates* are linked on the Council website at:  
<http://www.azgovernor.gov/gaca/LegUpdates.asp>.

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You can help circulate resource information. If you would like to submit an **educational** or **public service event** for consideration, be sure to send an email with the description and a link or pdf document to: [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov). Please note: we try to include events of interest to older Arizonans and aging service advocates and refrain from including fundraising or marketing materials.

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**Enjoy your weekend!**

**~Governor's Advisory Council on Aging**



If you wish to be REMOVED from or know someone who would like to be ADDED to the Update, please send an email to: [gaca@az.gov](mailto:gaca@az.gov) and ask to be unsubscribed or subscribed to the **Legislative Update**.

Governor's Advisory Council on Aging

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